

THE IRRIGATION QUESTION.

The Irrigation Convention recently held at Salt Lake was attended by 340 delegates representing 14 States and Territories. The meeting was, of course, an interesting one, and the whole question was thoroughly discussed in all its bearings.

It was determined at this meeting to ask congress to donate the arid lands in each State and Territory to that State or Territory in which they are situated, to be used by the local authorities in reclaiming the same.

This policy is probably the best that could be adopted, though the experience of most, if not quite all, of the States in dealing with the swamp and overflowed lands, ceded to the States or a like purpose, has not been such as to inspire hopes of the most flattering results. Still, the circumstances surrounding the two grants are radically different, and the arid land grants may lead to better results. In the case of the swamp lands the trouble grew largely out of the manner in which the selections were made. This duty being assigned to the local authorities, about everything that was level enough to get onto was selected either as swamp or overflowed, and as there was nothing to do by way of reclaiming them, all that was necessary was to organize a ring with sufficient power and influence to control the business and secure title to the land. But in the case of the arid lands there will be work to do before any one will want the land; this work will require a greater expenditure of money than could be afforded by private parties and the State, having made the improvements, would be interested in seeing that the land is made to pay for the same.

There is a large amount of arid lands in Eastern Oregon that could easily be reclaimed and rendered as valuable as any lands in the State, and after our experience with the grant to the State for building Oregon roads, it is scarcely to be expected that it would be allowed to pass into the hands of private owners until the work of irrigation has been completed. States, like individuals, learn from experience, and valuable grants are scarcely ever frittered away the second time. We have seen more than one instance in which the bulk of the lands granted by the State for school purposes were frittered away before the people began to think about what they were losing; but public attention being directed to the subject, more money was realized out of the trifling amount that was left than was realized out of the grand bulk which they had allowed to slip through their hands unguarded. Most of the States have passed through this experience, and the probabilities are that any lands which may come into their hands hereafter will be judiciously handled and the money put where it will do the most good.—Portland World.

Let the swamp land—in fact all monopoly land—grabbers, read the above from the Portland World carefully, and—if the "digest" suits or not doesn't make any difference—

Asks themselves the question whether or not the settler has the right to kick.

The World says "there is a large amount of arid lands in Eastern Oregon that could be easily reclaimed etc." The same was probably said of the swamp lands, but in approving the same to the state the ring was sufficiently rich and powerful to get millions of acres for nothing of the best agricultural lands of Eastern Oregon. We do not know of a single instance where the State or Government have received anything near the value of any land grants already given for different purposes, and it is certainly enough to make persons, who desire homes, feel dubious of the result of the arid lands being dispensed in accordance with the action of the Salt Lake irrigation convention.

EVERY newspaper office has now and then heard the exclamation, "Stop my paper!" shouts one because some trilling thing was printed in it which did not come up to his idea, or because the editor differed from him in opinion on some matter. Nine times out of ten such a man has been favored and noticed time and again by the paper he orders stopped. He forgets how the paper stood by him when it was worth something to him to have a friend; forgets that his troubles were of no possible interest to the newspaper, yet the proprietor or the editor felt like doing him a kindness, and has stepped into the breach and helped him out. Perhaps put him into some lucrative office that he could not have got without his aid. Such a man cannot possibly have a grateful hair in his head, and he sulks through life morose and crabbed; and his best friends get so they hate to see him, knowing that there is no sunshine or gratitude in his heart. But the paper goes on, just as though it had never seen the man before.—Poughkeepsie Eagle.

If the shoe fits you put it on, we want you to wear it. The above clipping shows just how little, selfish, bigoted, parsimonious and mean some men can be after being favored to the extent of success, when, without the favor defeat was sure.

A REPUBLICAN writing to the Lakeview Examiner is decidedly in favor of Hon. Binger Hermann being again elected to congress, and hinks very hard of an effort being made in the convention to defeat his re-nomination. He further states that the interests of the people should be observed in preference to that of any man, and that Mr. Herrmann has done a great deal for Lake county etc.

The Examiner replies that it is ignorant of any material legislative advantage Binger has been to Lake beyond a visit to the county and a hearty hand shake, however the privilege is granted the citizen to present through its columns the work done by Mr. Hermann for the aforesaid county. The Examiner advises the voters to elect a good able democrat, as in that case we would have a representative in harmony with a majority of congress, and in sympathy with the demands of the people.

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